

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1-85. (Cancelled)

86. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a program for use with a computer for tracking innovation disclosures by an organization as part of a system for managing protection and licensing of intellectual property assets, the program comprising:

receiving intellectual property asset protection data, wherein the intellectual property asset protection data includes protection data corresponding to a plurality of intellectual property assets owned by the organization, wherein each intellectual property asset is defined and maintained as an asset by the existence of legally-enforceable intellectual property protection rights pertaining to that intellectual property asset, wherein the intellectual property asset protection data further includes data associated with a plurality of innovation disclosures, the plurality of innovation disclosures comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one innovator of a plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization and comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one non-employee innovator;

receiving disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and the affiliates of the organization, wherein the disclosure gift information includes information regarding disclosure gifts stocked by the organization;

responsive to receiving the disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the

organization and the affiliates of the organization, automatically updating an associated balance of the stocked disclosure gifts;
tracking the disclosure gifts distributed to the at least one innovator for the organization and the affiliates of the organization;
receiving a notification that an intellectual property asset filing has occurred, the intellectual property asset filing based at least in part on an innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;
in response to receiving the notification that the intellectual property asset filing has occurred, processing a filing gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;
receiving a notification that an issuance associated with the intellectual property asset filing has occurred;
in response to receiving the notification of the issuance, processing an issuance gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;
tracking the filing gift and the issuance gift ~~gifts~~ given to the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators ~~for the organization and the affiliates of the organization~~ for ~~[[an]]~~ the intellectual property asset filing, ~~an intellectual property asset publication, and an intellectual property asset~~ the issuance; and
storing the intellectual property asset protection data in an intellectual property asset protection database including a plurality of intellectual property asset protection data records.

87. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the program further comprises tracking and reporting costs associated with purchase of disclosure gifts.

88. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the program further comprises tracking and reporting information arranged by innovator for the organization and affiliates of the organization regarding all disclosure gifts sent to each

innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization.

89. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the program further comprises automatically totaling numbers of disclosure gifts distributed within a time period.
90. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the program further comprises storing innovator data, the data including at least one of an employee/contractor status and a management/non-management status.
91. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 86, wherein the program further comprises storing organization data associated with the innovator, the organization data related to the innovator and including at least one of affiliate organization, company, division, and business unit.
92. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to track innovation disclosures by an organization as part of a system for managing protection and licensing of intellectual property assets, comprising:
logic configured to receive intellectual property asset protection data, wherein the intellectual property asset protection data includes protection data corresponding to a plurality of intellectual property assets owned by the organization, wherein each intellectual property asset is defined and maintained as an asset by the existence of legally-enforceable intellectual property protection rights pertaining to that intellectual property asset, wherein the intellectual property asset protection data further includes data associated with a plurality of innovation disclosures, the plurality of innovation disclosures comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one innovator of a plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization and comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one non-employee innovator;

logic configured to receive disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and the affiliates of the organization, wherein the disclosure gift information includes information regarding disclosure gifts stocked by the organization;

logic configured to, responsive to receiving the disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and the affiliates of the organization, automatically update an associated balance of the stocked disclosure gifts;

logic configured to track the disclosure gifts distributed to the at least one innovator for the organization and the affiliates of the organization;

logic configured to receive a notification that an intellectual property asset filing has occurred, the intellectual property asset filing based at least in part on an innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

logic configured to, in response to receiving the notification that the intellectual property asset filing has occurred, process a filing gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

logic configured to receive a notification that an issuance associated with the intellectual property asset filing has occurred;

logic configured to, in response to receiving the notification of the issuance, process an issuance gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

logic configured to track the filing gift and the issuance gift gifts given to the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators ~~for the organization and the affiliates of the organization~~ for ~~[[an]]~~ the intellectual property asset filing, ~~an intellectual property asset publication, and an intellectual property asset~~ the issuance; and

logic configured to store the intellectual property asset protection data in an intellectual property asset protection database including a plurality of intellectual property asset protection data records.

93. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising logic configured to track and report costs associated with purchase of disclosure gifts.
94. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising logic configured to track and report information arranged by innovator for the organization and affiliates of the organization regarding all disclosure gifts sent to each innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization.
95. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising logic configured to automatically total numbers of disclosure gifts distributed within a time period.
96. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising logic configured to store innovator data, the data including at least one of an employee/contractor status and a management/non-management status.
97. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising logic configured to store organization data associated with the innovator, the organization data related to the innovator and including at least one of affiliate organization, company, division, and business unit.
98. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for use with a computer for tracking innovation disclosures by an organization as part of a system for managing protection and licensing of intellectual property assets, comprising:
receiving, through the computer, intellectual property asset protection data,
wherein the intellectual property asset protection data includes protection data corresponding to a plurality of intellectual property assets owned by the organization, wherein each intellectual property asset is defined and

maintained as an asset by the existence of legally-enforceable intellectual property protection rights pertaining to that intellectual property asset, wherein the intellectual property asset protection data further includes data associated with a plurality of innovation disclosures, the plurality of innovation disclosures comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one innovator of a plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization and comprising innovation disclosures associated with at least one non-employee innovator;

receiving, through the computer, disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and the affiliates of the organization, wherein the disclosure gift information includes information regarding disclosure gifts stocked by the organization;

responsive to receiving the disclosure gift information associated with each innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and the affiliates of the organization, automatically updating, through the computer, an associated balance of the stocked disclosure gifts;

tracking, through the computer, the disclosure gifts distributed to the at least one innovator for the organization and the affiliates of the organization;

receiving, through the computer, a notification that the intellectual property asset filing has occurred, the intellectual property asset filing based at least in part on an innovation disclosure of the plurality of innovation disclosures associated with the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

in response to receiving the notification that the intellectual property asset filing has occurred, processing, through the computer, a filing gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

receiving, through the computer, a notification that an issuance associated with the intellectual property asset filing has occurred;

in response to receiving the notification of the issuance, processing, through the computer, an issuance gift for the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators;

tracking, through the computer, the filing gift and the issuance gift ~~gifts~~ given to the at least one innovator of the plurality of innovators ~~for the organization and the affiliates of the organization~~ for ~~[[an]]~~ the intellectual property asset filing, ~~an intellectual property asset publication, and an intellectual property asset~~ the issuance; and
storing the intellectual property asset protection data in an intellectual property asset protection database including a plurality of intellectual property asset protection data records.

99. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, further comprising tracking and reporting, through the computer, costs associated with purchase of disclosure gifts.
100. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, further comprising tracking and reporting, through the computer, information arranged by innovator for the organization and affiliates of the organization regarding all disclosure gifts sent to each innovator of the plurality of innovators for the organization and affiliates of the organization.
101. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, further comprising automatically totaling, through the computer, numbers of disclosure gifts distributed within a time period.
102. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, further comprising storing, through the computer, innovator data, the data including at least one of an employee/contractor status and a management/non-management status.
103. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 98, further comprising storing, through the computer, organization data associated with the innovator, the organization data related to the innovator and including at least one of affiliate organization, company, division, and business unit.

104-109. (Cancelled)